

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 01963 112049Z

17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 /069 W

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R 112015Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7661

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CI, PFOR,PINT

SUBJ: STATE OF SIEGE CONTINUED

1. OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF MARCH 11 CONTAINS DECREE LAW ROUTINELY EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS STATE OF SIEGE AT "LEVEL OF INTERNAL SECURITY." EFFECT OF LAW IS TO CONTINUE AT SAME LEVEL EMERGENCY AUTHORITY INVOKED ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1975, WHEN LAST REDUCTION OF GRADE OF EMERGENCY OCCURRED.

2. COMMENT: RUMORS AND SPECULATION REGARDING LOWERING OF STATE OF EMERGENCY HAVE PRECEDED EACH SEMI-ANNUAL DECLARATION BY GOC. SUCH SPECULATION PARTICULARLY RIFE FOR LAST FEW WEEKS.

3. MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING LEVEL OF EMERGENCY BY GOC REFLECTS CURRENT INTRANSIGENCE OF JUNTA AS REGARDS ANY FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN CHILE'S INTERNAL SECURITY SYSTEM AS WELL AS ITS INSENSITIVITY TO POLITICAL FACTORS, DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL. IT WILL BE NEGATIVE SIGNAL TO OUTSIDERS WHO HAD HOPED THAT EVIDENCE OF ISOLATION AND PERCEPTION OF NEED TO SET STAGE FOR OASGA WOULD HAVE LED JUNTA TO LOWER STATE OF SIEGE LEVEL AS EARNEST OF ITS INTENTIONS.

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POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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